

APPENDIX B

1. A polypeptide derivable from human NESP55 wherein the said polypeptide is derivable, or predicted from the amino acid sequence of human NESP55 to be derivable, by endoproteolytic cleavage of a polypeptide having the amino acid sequence

IRLEVPKRMDRRSRAQQWRRARHNYNDLCPPIGRRAATALLWLSCSIALLRAL
ATSNARAQQRAAAQRRSFLNAHHRSGAQVFPESPESEDHEHEEADLELSLP
ECLEYEEEFDYETESETESEIESETDFETEPETAPTTEPETEPEDDRGPVVPK
HSTFGQSLTQRLHALKLRSPDASPSRAPPSTQEPQSPREGEELKPEDKDPRRD
PEESKEPKEEKQRRRCKPKKPTRRDASPESPSKKGPIPIRRH

or

MDRRSRAQQWRRARHNYNDLCPPIGRRAATALLWLSCSIALLRALATSNARAQ
QRAAAQRRSFLNAHHRSGAQVFPESPESEDHEHEEADLELSLPECLEYEEE
FDYETESETESEIESETDFETEPETAPTTEPETEPEDDRGPVVPKHSTFGQSL
TQRLHALKLRSPDASPSRAPPSTQEPQSPREGEELKPEDKDPRRDPEESKEPK
EEKQRRRCKPKKPTRRDASPESPSKKGPIPIRRH

(human NESP55) or of a variant thereof, wherein the polypeptide variant has an amino acid sequence which has at least 90% identity with the amino acid sequence given above.

6. A polypeptide consisting of the amino acid sequence $X_n\text{LHAL}Z_m$, or $X_n\text{GPIPIRRH}Z_m$ wherein X_n represents the amino acid sequence of the consecutive n amino acids immediately N terminal to the amino acid sequence LHAL or GPIPIRRH and wherein Z_m represents the amino acid sequence of the consecutive m amino acids immediately C terminal to the amino acid sequence LHAL or GPIPIRRH, wherein n and m may independently be any number between 0 and 30 amino acids.

8. A polypeptide variant, fragment, derivative or fusion of a polypeptide having the amino acid sequence

IRLEVPKRMDRRSRAQQWRRARHNYNDLCPPIGRRAATALLWLSCSIALLRAL
ATSNARAQQRAAAQRRSFLNAHHRSGAQVFPESPESEDHEHEEADLELSLP

ECLEYEEEFDYETESETESEIESETDFETEPETAPTTEPETEPEDDRGPVVPK
HSTFGQSLTQRLHALKLRSPDASPSRAPPSTQEPQSPREGEELKPEDKDPRRD
PEESKEPKEEKQRRRCKPKKPTRRDASPESPSKKGPIIRRH

or a fusion of a said variant or fragment or derivative, wherein the polypeptide variant has an amino acid sequence which has at least 90% identity with the amino acid sequence given above and wherein the said polypeptide variant, derivative, fragment or fusion does not have the amino acid sequence

MDRRSRAQQWRRARHNYNDLCPPIGRRAATALLWLSCSIALLRALATSNARAQ
QRAAAQQRRSFLNAHHRSGAQVFPESPESEDHEHEEADLELSLPECLEYEEE
FDYETESETESEIESETDFETEPETAPTTEPETEPEDDRGPVVPKHSTFGQSL
TQRLHALKLRSPDASPSRAPPSTQEPQSPREGEELKPEDKDPRDPEESKEPKE
EKQRRRCKPKKPTRRDASPESPSKKGPIIRRH.

9. A recombinant polynucleotide encoding or complementary to a polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide, for example a fusion polypeptide, according to Claim 1.

10. A recombinant polynucleotide suitable for expressing a polypeptide according to Claim 1.

13. A method of making a polypeptide as defined in claim 1, the method comprising culturing a host cell transformed with a polynucleotide vector construct comprising a polynucleotide suitable for expressing the polypeptide of claim 1 and isolating said polypeptide from said host cell.

15. An antibody reactive towards a polypeptide according to Claim 1 or having an amino acid sequence given in claim 1.

20. A method of treating or preventing obesity in a patient, the method comprising administering to the patient an effective amount of an antibody as defined in Claim 15.

22. A method of identifying a polypeptide (interacting polypeptide) that is capable of interacting with a polypeptide as defined in claim 1, or that is capable of interacting with a polypeptide containing the sequence GAIPRRH, the method comprising the steps of (1) exposing the said polypeptide to a test composition that may comprise a said interacting polypeptide, (2) detecting an interaction between the said polypeptide and a said interacting polypeptide and optionally (3) identifying and/or isolating the said interacting polypeptide.